er Majeſty's REASONS

For Creating the Electoral Prince of Hannover a Peer of this Realm: Or, the Preamble of his Patent as Duke of Cambridge, in Latin and Engliſh; with Remarks upon the ſame.

UM ſereniſſima domus Electoralis Brunſvico-Luneburgencis e regia Majorum noſtrorum ſtirpe oriunda ſit, & avita regna (ſi nos prole deceſſerimus) ſecundum leges auctoate noſtra ſancitas, occupare debeat; cumque men enixe cupiamus, ut predicta Domus ſereima non minus amicitia nobis, quam ſanguine federibus, devinciatur: Nos, pro ſingulari ro erga illam affectu, chariſſimum conſanguiuum noſtrum GEO. AUGUSTUM, *ſereniſſi Electoris filium, ſummis honoribus augere revimus.* Et quamvis tanti Principis filiunicus patriis finibus excedere, ſine gravi ram periculo, non poſſit; *his præcipue tembus, quibus viſini Status tam violentis temſtatibus perturbantur: ut tamen rebus noſtris conſiliis*, qua licet, *honoris & nominis auoritate*, etiam abſens, quodammodo interſit, *um Parium hujus regni numero adſcribi juſſiit. Ha illi erunt primitiæ ſupremæ iſtius, gnitatis, ad quam (nobis, noſtriſque omnibus ontibus) deſtinatur: Ut ornatus dehinc nobiſſimi hujuſce regni titulis, quos Regii ſanguiis principes ſemper ambierunt, noſtratem ſe eſſe eſtiat. Vos interea Barones, Vicecomites, Coites, Marchiones, Duces, vobis gratulemini, uod tante ſpei princeps, Germaniæ decus & liciæ, ſanctiſſimæ noſtr Religionis vindex, Libertatis publicæ propugnator, vobis im imperaturus, e vobis interim unus, in veros ſe ordines referri amet*, &c.

WHereas the moſt ſerene Electoral Houſe of Brunſwick-Lunenburg is ſprung from the Royal ſtock of our anceſtors, and is (if we ſhou'd deceaſe without iſſue) to enjoy, *by virtue of Laws ratify'd by our authority*, the Kingdoms of their progenitors; yet as we earneſtly deſire that the ſaid moſt ſerene Houſe ſhou'd no leſs be ty'd to us by friendſhip, than by blood and alliances, We, according to our ſingular affection towards the ſame, have decreed to grace with the higheſt Honours our moſt dear Couſin, *GEORGE AUGUSTUS*, ſon to the moſt ſerene Elector. *And although the only ſon of ſo great a Prince cannot go out of his native Country without the utmoſt danger*, eſpecially at this time, when the neighbouring States are toſt with ſuch violent tempeſts; to the end nevertheleſs, that, *as much as poſſible*, he may, by the authority of his name and dignity, *tho abſent, be in a manner preſent in our Parliament and Councils*, We have order'd him to be added to the number of the Peers of this Realm. This will be to him an earneſt of that ſupreme dignity, to which (according to ours, and the wiſhes of all our ſubjects) he's deſtin'd: That being henceforth adorn'd with the titles of this moſt noble Kingdom, which the Princes of the Blood-royal have always courted, he may be proud to be ours. You therefore the Barons, Viſcounts, Earls, Marquiſſes and Dukes, congratulate with your ſelves, that a Prince of ſo great hopes, the ornament and darling of Germany, the defender of our moſt holy Religion, and the aſſertor of publick Liberty, one that is hereafter to govern you, and till then is one of you, ſhould now delight to be veſted with the ſame Honours with you, &c.

REMARKS.

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SInce it has been ſo faſhionable of late to print the Preambles of Patents con ſtituting Peers of this Realm, and that this may afford no ſmall light t future Hiſtory, I have likewiſe thought fit to gratify the publick with th Preamble foregoing: And as others have taken the liberty to cenſure not onl the Language, but even the matter of ſome Patents, I may (ſo to be ſure) mor warrantably make 3 or 4 Remarks to juſtify Her Majeſty's wiſe proceedin and upright intentions in this immediately under our conſideration.

I. My firſt Remark, or rather Explanation, ſhall be, that by the preſen Houſe of Hanover's being ſprung from the Royal ſtock of her Anceſtors, th Queen does not only mean from the Princeſs *ELIZABETH*, Queen o Bohemia, daughter to King *JAMES* the firſt; but alſo from *MATILD* or *MAUD* King *HENRY* the ſecond of England's Daughter, who wa Marry'd to *HENRY* the Lyon, from whom the Houſe of Brunſwick is de ſcended for many Generations paſt: and therefore the Princeſs *SOPHIA* Electreſs Dowager of Hannover, upon her receiving the Act of Succeſſion, or der'd a Medal to be ſtruck with her own Buſt or Head on one ſide, and tha of *MATILDA* on the reverſe, betokening the Deſcent of this new Saxon line from the Norman and Scotiſh Royal Families.

II. My ſecond Remark is, that the Queen notwithſtanding does not ſay they are to ſucceed to the Britiſh Scepters *by Hereditary Right* (ſeeing ſo many Fami lies or Branches, and ſo many particular perſons of each, are in degrees of con ſanguinity before 'em) but by virtue of Laws ratify'd by Her Authority, *or by Parliamentary Right*; comprehending thereby Her own and the Acts of King *WILLIAM* for ſettling the new entail of the Crown, and for ſecuring the Succeſſion in the Proteſtant Line. And moſt certainly the Government both o England and Scotland, before the Union, no leſs than at preſent, is, in its very Fundamental Conſtitution, the Medium between an abſolutely Hereditary and an abſolutely Elective Monarchy. The true State of the caſe is this. *To prevent the Incertitude, Competition, Bribery, and confuſion of frequent Elections (as in Poland) the Crown is entail'd upon a particular Family according to the right of Primogeniture, the Female ſucceeding in default of Male Iſſue: but to prevent likewiſe our remedileſs falling (as in France) under the management of Idiots, Madmen, Tyrants, or other Perſons incapable of rule, the Crown is ſo limited under certain conditions relating to State and Religion, as in caſes of extream neceſſity to be transferable to the neareſt in Blood (duely Capacitated) or to the moſt worthy of the ſame Family.*

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This has been often prov'd, and will be ſtill further prov'd by ancient laws as well as facts, to be our Conſtitution *de jure* therefore no leſs than *de facto* from the very beginning: nor is it in Queen *ANNE*'s, no nor in Queen *ELIZABETH*'s time, that the firſt law was enacted, making it Treaſon for any to aſſert, that the Prince and Parliament cou'd not limit or alter the Succeſſion, and ſo diſpoſe of it as they ſaw moſt conducing to the publick good. Now if the London Clergy (whoſe lay-pupils we may reaſonably ſuppoſe had no meaning) wou'd have been at the pains to explain their new-trumpt up hereditary, and indefeazable right on this foot in their laſt addreſs (that is, hereditary right, under parliamentary limitations) there's no body wou'd offer to quarrel with them: whereas till ſomething of this nature be done in a ſolemn and authentick manner, men cannot help believing they meant no good to the Proteſtant Succeſſion, no more than they and ſome others of their brethren (for God be thanked all of the order are not infected) do wiſh well to the Britiſh Conſtitution, by reviving the odious, exploded, and deſtructive doctrines of Paſſive obedience and Nonreſiſtance to the lawleſs commands of the Prince, or thoſe commiſſion'd by him, which is to bear Allegiance even to his Army.

III. My third remark is, that nothing can parallel the imprudence of thoſe who are ſuch fools to believe themſelves, or the impudence of thoſe who are ſuch knaves as to make others believe, that the Queen or her Miniſters have any manifeſt deſigns, or ſecret reſerves in favour of the Pretender, which notion the Jacobites are indefatigably infuſing every where. I hold it no wonder that Papiſts ſhou'd do ſo, who think it lawful for Princes to break their words and oaths for the ſervice of Mother Church; but that Proteſtants ſhou'd be found, who are not only ſhameleſs enough to inſinuate theſe things, but exultingly ſhow their approbation of ſuch Politicks (which yet I propheſy will break ſome of their necks) is horrible and aſtoniſhing beyond any expreſſion; eſpecially after the Queens ſo clear declaration, on many other occaſions as in this Preamble, that the Hanover Family is to ſucceed her immediately, if ſhe ſhou'd happen to dye without Iſſue, and that this new title is to be to the Electoral Prince the firſt fruits or earneſt of the Royal Dignity, to which he's deſtin'd by her Majeſty's own wiſhes (which are the words of the Preamble) as well as by the Laws of the Nation. How can any Tories then that propagate, or any Whigs that countenance, ſuch an abominable fiction (herein equally deluded by the Jacobites) reconcile it with the character of a Proteſtant Princeſs governing by Laws, to whoſe ſincerity and plain dealing (among the crowd of her other conſpicuous vertues) the high Allies and all the world bear a particular teſtimony? what a deteſtable Idea wou'd they create, while they pretend to commend? as unfit (in ſhort) to write, as to imagine.

IV. My fourth and laſt remark is, that altho' ſome Princes are ſaid to have thought fit not to ſend during their lives for their immediate Succeſſor, or any

of

of their family, who in case of the reigning Prince's death, might take care
their interests, yet our Queen has made no such declaration; but only intimat
in this Preamble the danger and inconvenience of the Electoral Prince's leavi
his Country during the War between the Swedes and their Enemies, so th
after a peace on that side (which we wish may soon happen) he may be safely i
vited over. But indeed he may come of himself whenever he pleases, particula
ly when he's summon'd to Parliament, that he may take care (as I said) of h
Grandmother's interest, and that of his father, whose most serene highness cou
not certainly at such a juncture as this securely leave his Country, not only
he's a Sovereign Prince, but as the peace of Germany will very much depend u
the Councils of the wisest and richest Prince of the Empire. Neither is it by
so dangerous for the Electoral Prince to venture abroad now, as when the P
tent was penn'd; for from an only son he has since secur'd the Succession of h
family with several brave and healthy children, by one of the amiablest Pri
cesses in the World. The case of Queen *ELIZABETH*, so frequent in t
mouths of some well meaning people, is no manner of parrallel: Since in t
first place, no Successor was expresly declar'd in her reign; and that, in t
second place, *MART* Queen of Scots pretended a better and antecedent rig
never openly disclaim'd by her son King *JAMES*, Thus their party loo
upon them as Competitors rather than Successors, whereof so wise a princes
Queen *ELIZABETH* cou'd not but foresee the danger; but in case bes
us there is no room so much as for a suggestion of this nature, and therefor
doubt not but so wise a princess as Queen *ANNE* will take proper measu
to remove the fears and jealousies of her faithful subjects.

Let no body mistake this last expression as a contradiction to what I said
the third remark: for I am still most firmly of the same opinion, that the S
cession is so far from being in danger from the Queen or her Ministers, that I co
as soon believe 'em in a conspiracy against themselves, as to be directly enga
against the house of Hanover; yet I neither there nor any where else have sa
that the Succession was in no danger from any other quarter. On the contra
think it from my soul to be infinitely more in danger, ay in growing danger, t
the Church cou'd ever be conceiv'd to be by the most credulous, when of l
so much noise was seditiously rais'd on this subject by certain persons, who
now quite mute about Popery and the Pretender. And therefore, if I be
happily prevented (as I hope to be) by the proceedings of the ensuing Par
ment, I shall not be such a Traytor to my Country, as to fail of giving it t
public warning, which every good subject is bound to do when he apprehe
publick danger: for tho' with the Irish house of Commons, *I shall ever adher*
sound Revolution principles, yet I am by no means fond of frequent Revolutions.

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